

Sub C 17
B1
3. (Twice Amended) A method of placing a component having leads and an alignment-indicating fiducial marker, wherein the fiducial marker includes a physically asymmetric portion of the component, the method comprising:

placing the component into a nest having an asymmetrically shaped recess corresponding to the physically asymmetric marker on the component;
detecting whether the physically asymmetric marker on the component mates with the asymmetrically shaped recess; and
placing the component on the substrate when mating of the physically asymmetric marker with the asymmetrically shaped recess is detected.

Please cancel claim 8 without prejudice and disclaimer.

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Please amend claim 9 to read as follows:

9. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein detecting further comprises:
directing a pattern of radiation above and parallel to the recess in the nest;
receiving the radiation pattern that passes the recess;
comparing the received radiation pattern to a predetermined radiation pattern; and
determining whether the fiducial marker is mated with the asymmetrically shaped recess.

Please cancel claims 44-53, and 61 without prejudice and disclaimer.

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Please amend claim 62 to read as follows:

62. (Amended) A method of placing a component having leads and a fiducial marker having an alignment-indicating physical shape, the method comprising:
forming a recess in a nest corresponding to the physical shape of the fiducial marker;
placing the component in the recess;
detecting whether the physical shape of the fiducial marker mates with the recess;
and